

YELLOWSTONE MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER



Contact Information:

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Master Gardener Calendar:

New season of **Master Gardener 2 Classes** will be beginning soon:

Friday afternoon sessions start
April 12th
Monday evening sessions start April
8th
Both held at the Courthouse meet-
ing room. No class May 27th. May
31 and June 3rd are testing days.

Arbor Day is April 17th at Rose
Park.

MG Booth at Gainan's starts April
20th thru June 1.

Geranium Fest is May 18th.
Many volunteer teaching opportuni-
ties are currently available. Please
contact Amy if you can help with
any of these community service
speaking dates.

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Volume 2 Issue 2

March-April 2013

Featured Master Gardener - Joyce Hendricks

Hello everyone and Happy Spring!
This issue I am writing about Joyce
Hendricks who has been in the Mas-
ter Gardener program since 2009.



Joyce grew up on a farm in Lodge Grass with her 2 sisters. As a very little girl she started helping her mom in the family garden. Joyce would help with the weeding and general up-keep of the gardens and flower beds. After high school Joyce went to MSU in Bozeman and received her degree in nursing. Joyce practiced nursing until she went back to school at the University of Colorado in Denver and received her master's degree in nursing. Joyce then went back to practicing nursing for 15 years and in 1992 joined the Air Force for 6 years. While in the Air Force she was stationed in Delaware and Alaska with her husband Ron. When she was in the Air Force she did not have time to garden. After her hitch in the military was up, she came back to Billings where she taught the clinical part of pediatric nursing for MSU Bozeman. Joyce is now retired from nursing after 45 years. She is involved in many areas of the Master Gardener program. She has helped at the Zoo, Farmers Market, Montana Fair and Metra Park Gardens. Currently she is helping on Monday nights with the IT part of the Master Gardener class

and also answering questions from stu-
dents. On a personal note, I would like
to say how glad I am that Joyce is help-
ing with the class. People who took it
last year know that me doing the IT part
of the class is a bad thing. She is also
going to the Level 3 class in the fall of
this year. Joyce has gardened in
Lodge

Grass and Billings. Joyce enjoys all
aspects of gardening but her favorite is
vegetable gardening. Her favorite
vegetable is winter squash, especially
acorn squash. She told me she can't
wait for it to ripen and harvest it.
Joyce's favorite flower is the Peony. At
her house she has 10 to 15 of them
and loves when they bloom in the
spring. Joyce and Ron both like to
work in the yard and gardens together.
When not gardening, Joyce likes to
sew, hike and read murder mysteries.
Joyce told me she thinks that she has
the mystery solved and then in the end
she does not. Joyce and her husband
Ron have two boys, one in Billings the
other in Boise. They also have four
grandsons and one granddaughter.
Joyce's gardening tip is you should
never give up. If something doesn't
grow in one part of your yard then try it
somewhere else. These are words that
most of us live by and is a great tip.
Joyce is a true asset to our group. She
is always willing to help out with differ-
ent projects. Again, Joyce and others
like her are what make the Master Gar-
dener group a success. Thank you
Joyce for helping out and being part of
the Master Gardeners

-Submitted by Bob Wicks

Northwest Flower and Garden Show

.Every year in February, Seattle hosts the Northwest Flower and Garden Show. This is the second largest flower and garden show in the world with Philadelphia being first and London being the third. This year a group of 50 Master Gardeners from across Montana travelled to the show. Nine of us were from our area around Yellowstone County. The Yellowstone County group flew out of Billings on the 21st of Feb. with 7 or us on the same flight (the other 2 arrived a day earlier). We arrived in late afternoon and travelled via the light rail from the airport to the Crown Plaza Hotel in downtown Seattle to meet the rest of the Montana group who had travelled on a bus from Missoula. Oddly we all arrived at almost the same time. The first night we had a catered "Welcome Dinner" at the Crown Plaza to meet and greet everyone from Montana. It is always a highlight to visit with the other Master Gardeners from Montana, compare our gardens and ideas to theirs and catch up with those who we only get to see from time-to-time at MG functions. On Friday morning we were up bright and early to get ready for the show. If you know Toby Day or have done any event with him you know the day starts early and goes late into the night. We were treated each morning to a great catered breakfast. The Crown Plaza is only a block from the show and we were able to walk to the convention center where it was held. At the show we saw gardens that were unbelievable with all different kinds of plants, trees and designs. This year was the 25th anniversary of the show. The theme was Hollywood and there were gardens with any major movie you could think of. Two of my favorites were The Wizard of Oz and Star Wars themes. I actually got to sit next to the Scarecrow from the Wizard of Oz and had my picture taken. We were able to see friends we met at the show from last year, one being Farmer John from California. He is a farmer from south of San Francisco. John has a farm where he raises vegetables for restaurants and grocery stores. In his booth he sells seeds that are imported from Italy. John donated 230 packages of seeds to our Yellowstone County Master Gardeners to use as we choose. We are making square foot gardening kits to sell to people just starting out in gardening these include the gardening seeds. The one thing we seemed to do a lot over there is eat seafood and fresh produce. The Pikes Market and the piers are only 5 blocks from the hotel. We would sneak away from the show and go to the market or pier restaurants for any seafood you could want. We were there for 2 full days and had a fantastic time! I encourage everyone to go on these outings with us. You will find some great new friends from our area and across Montana. Our field trips and other events are fun and educational and worth the time to attend. Hope to see you on the next one! *-BW*

VEGETABLE DIP

8 oz softened cream cheese

1/2 cup mayonnaise

2 tablespoons minced onion

1 tsp parsley

1 tsp dill

dash of pepper

1 hardboiled egg, separated

Cream all the ingredients together till smooth except for the egg. Crumble the egg yolk on top and serve.

- Submitted by Sheri Kisch

BOOK REVIEW by Elaine Allard

“Foraged Flavor: Finding Fabulous Ingredients in Your Own Backyard or Farmers Market” is a new book that is out at the Parmly Billings Library. It was written by Tama Matsuoka Wong with the help of Eddy Leroux who is a chef at the well known Daniel Restaurant in New York. The book contains many close-up pictures and a checklist which makes it easy to identify a variety of common weeds that are cherished for their rare flavor and can be used to prepare a “botanical smorgasbord”. The author and the chef have put together 88 scrumptious recipes using plants such as purslane, creeping jenny, mustards, cattails, bee balm, daylilies, lambs quarters, amaranth, etc. Recipes and identifying pictures of these diverse plants are divided into three sections (Early Spring, Summer, and Autumn/Winter) which corresponds to the time of year the plant is at its most edible and flavorful stage. After reading this book you will have a new way to look at weeds.

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*Weeds are the true crop
which the earth more
willingly
bears. -Henry David
Thoreau*

Tom Kress Seminar



On March 9th Tom Kress gave a presentation at the Yellowstone County Courthouse on seed starting. There were about 40 people in attendance. Tom has a lot of experience at seed starting with great success. He talked about and demonstrated seed starting from the very beginning to planting them out in your garden. He showed us how to care for them at different times throughout their growing stages. He offered some very clever and economical tips and tools for sheltering and

transplanting seedlings. This presentation was the first one open to the public and 6 people attended who are not currently in the Master Gardeners group. We also had 7 people sign up to become members of the Yellowstone County Master Gardeners Association. To warm up the crowd before Tom's presentation, Corry Mordeaux did a demonstration of the jar test for soil content testing. Corry's demonstration was also very informative and there were a lot of questions. Thanks to Corry and Tom for putting on such a great class. —*Beeb Wicks*

March and April Birthdays

3/4—Ruth Towe

3/12—Gary Aasheim

3/13—Shelley Thurmond

3/23—Shirley Spildie

3/23—Marcella Manuel

3/31—Carol Blades

4/6—Vi Hills

4/12—Mary McLane

4/21—Sharon Yazak

Current Seminars

Friday April 5th 6 pm in the Courthouse Meeting room— Murry Lyda will be giving a Seed Saving Seminar.

Saturday April 13th is the final day of the Tree Seminar featuring Mike Garvey. It is at 10am at the Audubon Conservatory and will finish at the Zoo.

Beekeeping Field Day

A Beekeeping Field Day will be held on May 11th, 2013, starting at 8:00am and running several hours until all instructions and questions are complete. Mr. Molenda from Western Bee Supply in Polson, MT and Dr. Jerry Bromenshenk of Missoula will be on hand for instructions. Contact Sheri Kisch at (406) 628-6100 for more information.



New Members: We need your birth-days . Please contact Amy with your information. Thanks.



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<http://www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov/extension/horticulture/mastergard.asp>

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Montana State University Extension - Yard and Garden:
<http://gardenguide.montana.edu/>
<http://www.facebook.com/msuextension>



From Gilbert (Murry) Lyda

Tip– Do not crowd your plants. Plants need the space more than you may think. We've all done it. Hating to waste space and being more "efficient", we throw down another pinch of lettuce. Or, we forgot where we planted. Or "these are tiny seeds" and added some more seed thinking more is better. Next thing you know, you are thinning (and wasting) plants that are begging for space. Leaf space or root space. Crowding of planting can cause diseases by weakening the plant from sunlight, water and hiding pests. Crowding can also induce plants to bolt. So, space the plants accordingly and write it down. Stick to a square plan.



We have the ability to get Wall-O-Waters again for the nominal price of \$5.75 for a 3 pack. Your choice of red or green. All orders must be prepaid. For information or to order contact: Sharon Wetsch (406-351-1409) or sharonwetsch@yahoo.com Thanks.

I have many, many one year old ponderosa pine tree seedlings, for the taking, if anyone would have a home for them. Sheri Kisch schnickelfritz@yahoo.com

I don't know what section we would put this note in, but yesterday as I was using my last carrot from the garden, I wondered just how many ways other gardeners kept their carrots over the winter and spring? Anyone care to share?

Chicken Coops & Other Garden Structures



Tony Seitz

13520 Pleasant Valley Road
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At Mile Marker 45 on Buffalo Trail
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Companions, Allies & Enemies in the Gardening

Companions refer to those vegetables that, when planted together, are mutually beneficial. **Allies** are the herbs and flowers that provide protection or improve the growth of a plant. **Enemies** are other vegetables, herbs and flowers that can cause detrimental effects when planted near certain vegetables. This listing from Michigan State University Extension Service explains in detail the exact effects of the allies and enemies, and names the companions.

BEANS

Companions: Beet (to bush beans only), cabbage family, carrot, celery, chard, corn, cucumber, eggplant, pea, potatoes, radish, strawberry. **Enemies:** Garlic, onion and shallot stunt the growth of beans. **Allies:** Marigold deters Mexican bean beetles. Nasturtium and rosemary deter bean beetles. Summer savory deters bean beetles, improves growth and flavor.

BEETS

Companions: Bush beans, cabbage family, lettuce, onion. **Ally:** Garlic improves growth and flavor. **Enemies:** Pole beans and beets stunt each other's growth.

CABBAGE FAMILY

(Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, kale)

Companions: Beet, celery, chard, cucumber, lettuce, onion, potato, spinach. **Allies:** Chamomile and garlic improve growth and flavor. Catnip, hyssop, rosemary and sage deter cabbage moth. Dill improves growth and health. Mint deters cabbage moth and ants, improves health and flavor. Nasturtium deters bugs, beetles, aphids. Southernwood deters cabbage moth, improves growth and flavor. Tansy deters cabbageworm and cutworm. Thyme deters cabbageworm. **Enemies:** Kohlrabi and tomato stunt each other's growth.

CARROTS

Companions: Bean, lettuce, onion, pea, pepper, radish, tomato. **Allies:** Chives improve growth and flavor. Rosemary and sage deter carrot fly. **Enemy:** Dill retards growth.

CORN

Companions: Bean, cucumber, melon, parsley, pea, potato, pumpkin, squash. **Enemies:** Tomatoes and corn are attacked by the same worm. **Allies:** Odorless marigold and white geranium deter Japanese beetles. Pigweed raises nutrients from the subsoil to where the corn can reach them.

CUCUMBER

Companions: Bean, cabbage family, corn, pea, radish, tomato. **Enemy:** Sage **Allies:** Marigold deters beetles. Nasturtium deters aphids, beetles and bugs, improves growth and flavor. Oregano deters pests in general. Tansy deters ants, beetles, bugs, flying insects.

LETTUCE

Companions: Beet, cabbage family, carrot, onion, radish, strawberry. **Allies:** Chives and garlic deter aphids.

MELONS

Companions: Corn, pumpkin, radish, squash. **Allies:** Marigold deters beetles. Nasturtium deters bugs and beetles. Oregano provides general pest protection.

ONIONS

Companions: Beet, cabbage family, carrot, chard, lettuce, pepper, strawberry, tomato. **Enemies:** Onions stunt bean, pea. **Allies:** Chamomile and summer savory improve growth and flavor. Pigweed raises nutrients from subsoil and makes them available to the onions. Sow thistle improves growth and health.

PEAS

Companions: Bean, carrot, corn, cucumber, radish, turnip. **Allies:** Chives deter aphids. Mint improves health and flavor. **Enemies:** Garlic and onion stunt the growth of peas.

PEPPERS

Companions: Carrot, eggplant, onion and tomato.

POTATOES

Companions: Beans, cabbage family, corn, eggplant, pea. **Enemies:** Tomatoes and potatoes are attacked by the same blight. **Allies:** Horseradish, planted at the corners of the potato patch, provides general protection. Marigold deters beetles.

PUMPKINS/SQUASH

Companions: Corn, melon, squash. **Allies:** Marigold deters beetles. Nasturtium deters bugs, beetles. Oregano provides general pest protection.

RADISHES

Companions: Bean, carrot, cucumber, lettuce, melon, pea. **Allies:** Chervil and nasturtium improve growth and flavor. **Enemy:** Hyssop

SPINACH

Companions: Cabbage family, strawberry.

STRAWBERRY

Companions: Bean, lettuce, onion, spinach, thyme. **Enemy:** Cabbage. **Allies:** Borage strengthens resistance to insects and disease. Thyme, as a border, deters worms.

TOMATOES

Companions: Asparagus, carrot, celery, cucumber, onion, parsley, pepper. **Enemies:** Corn and tomato are attacked by the same worm. Mature dill retards tomato growth.

Kohlrabi stunts tomato growth. Potatoes and tomatoes are attacked by the same blight. **Allies:** Basil repels flies and mosquitoes, improves growth and flavor. Bee balm, chives and mint improve health and flavor. Borage deters tomato worm, improves growth and flavor. Dill, until mature, improves growth and health. Once mature, it stunts tomato growth. Marigold deters nematodes. Pot marigold deters tomato worm and general garden pests.

– submitted by Elaine Allard

SPRING POTATO PLANTING

It's that time of year again for planting seed potatoes. Many varieties are in at the hardware stores and nurseries. Look to see if they are Montana certified by looking for the blue tag.

http://www.theprairiestar.com/news/producer_reports/montana-producer-seeds-five-varieties-of-seed-potatoes-near-dillon/article_ccdeb344-9548-11e1-8520-001a4bcf887a.html

<http://www.montana.edu/cpa/news/nwview.php?article=11804http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/>

Other links can be found by typing MSU articles on seed potatoes or potato blight.

Current Volunteer Opportunities

Zoo Montana -Teresa Bessette 969-3477 tetontess@hotmail.com
JoAnn Glasser 652-8734

Gainan's Booth—Woman's Prison

- Sharon Wetsch 351-1409 sharonwetsch@yahoo.com

Special K Ranch - Sherri Deaver 252-7421 ksdeaver1@bresnan.net

Peggy Aasheim 651-8181 peg.aasheim@bresnan.net

Courthouse Planter—Gail Tesinsky 652-4496 westsidekustoms@msn.com

Moss Mansion- Stacy Jacobs 855-3387 Teresa Bessette 969-3477 tetontess@hotmail.com

Friendship House—Bob Short 628-1600 bshortmt@gmail.com

- ◆ For a more complete list of Spring gardening activities –go to Grapevine on Yellowstone County Master Gardener's web site
www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov/extension/horticulture/grapevine.asp

Send your submissions for newsletter to
ymastergardener@gmail.com

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